(c) The issue of differences between the official estimates of poverty and estimates being made by the States is currently under consideration by an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Professor Suresh Tendulkar, Chairman of the National Statistical Commission.

Current definition of poverty

3335. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that currently definition of poverty is based on a fifteen year old definition proposed by the Lakdawala Committee way back in 1993;

(b) if so, whether Government has a plan to set a fresh criteria to measure poverty for the Eleventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details and steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The definition of poverty currently used by the Planning Commission is based on the recommendations made by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor in 1993. The Expert Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. D.T. Lakdawala.

(b) The Planning Commission has used the criteria outlined in the Report of the Expert Group of Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor to measure poverty in the Eleventh Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds allocated to States

†3336. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government and particularly Government of NCT, Delhi have been allocated funds for maintenance of slums, execution of works related to provision for basic facilities to the citizens of urban areas alongwith developmental works including for other schemes during past and current Five Year Plans; and

(b) the amount allocated to States by Centre so far alongwith their dates and names of schemes during past and current Five Year Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The main schemes for providing basic facilities to slums in urban areas during Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans were 'Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)' and 'National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)'.

'VAMBAY' was launched in 2001, as Centrally Sponsored Scheme, and Rs. 1093.93 crore, including Rs. 57.62 crore for NCT Delhi, were allocated during 2001-02 to 2005-06.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

'NSDP' was launched in 1996, as Additional Central Assistance to States/UTs for the development of urban slums, and Rs. 3089.63 crore, including Rs. 186.18 crore for NCT Delhi, were released during 1996-97 to 2004-2005.

Consequent upon launching of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in December, 2005, VAMBAY and NSDP have been subsumed in JNNURM. JNNURM is a seven year programme beginning 2005-06 with Central grant of Rs. 50,000 crore, out of which Rs. 13650 crore is for Basic Services to Urban Poor (BSUP) in 63 selected mission cities, and Rs. 4450 crore for Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) in other urban areas, which pertain to providing housing for slums' dwellers. The seven years allocation under BSUP for NCT Delhi is Rs. 1456.28 crore.

Priority to inclusive growth

3337. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving high priority to the inclusive growth;

(b) if so, the targets set out for various Ministries/departments to achieve the inclusive growth;

(c) whether Government undertook any study of social exclusion in India;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government would undertake any efforts to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Attaining the objectives of faster and inclusive growth has been given high priority in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The objectives of faster and inclusive growth have been encapsulated in a set of socio-economic targets at the national level in the areas of income and poverty, education, health, women and children issues, infrastructure and environment. Some of these national level targets have also been disaggregated at the level of States. The targets to achieve the inclusive growth are mostly identified with the Ministries/Departments. These are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Social exclusion is reflected in disparities among different sections of the population in terms of the socio-economic indicators such as, poverty, health, education, etc. and of all, income and consumption, the results of which are obtained from nation-wide surveys conducted by premier Statistical agencies, among others. As per the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure, the per capita consumption expenditure of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is lower than the national average per capita consumption. Occupation-specific, the per capita consumption of agricultural labourers in the rural areas and casual labourers in the urban areas is lower than that of all population. The officials estimates of poverty made by the Planning Commission show higher poverty rate among these socio-economic groups of the population as compared to the national average. The literacy rate among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is lower than the national average literacy rate. The literacy rate among the females is less than that among the males. The various Statistical agencies from time to time conduct Surveys on socio-economic conditions, which are used to study the phenomenon of social exclusion in the country.